

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1-17 and 31-33 remain in the application. Claims 25-30 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 18-24 were previously canceled.

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 12-14, 16, 31 and 32 were rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4, 1 and 7, 2, 4, 7, 14, and 1 and 14, respectively, of U.S. Patent No. 6,695,878. Claims 1-17 and 25-30 were provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-17, 25 and 28, and 26-30, respectively, of copending Application No. 10/011,345 (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0055772). Claims 12-14 and 16 were rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4, respectively, of U.S. Patent No. 7,041,128.

Claims 25-28 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Dua, et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,302,917). Claim 29 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dua, et al in view of Wilson, et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,053,896).

Claim 33 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, and indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

Applicants believe claims 25-30 are patentable over the prior art. However, to expedite prosecution, these claims have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

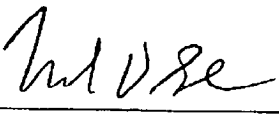
Claims 1-17 and 31-32 were rejected solely for obviousness type double patenting. To expedite prosecution, three terminal disclaimers are submitted herewith to overcome the rejection. Therefore claims 1-17 and 31-32 (and 33) are now believed allowable.

This application is now believed in condition for allowance.

Prompt and favorable reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned should the Examiner believe it would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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